

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block in a rotatable manner, said retaining system comprising:

(a) at least one groove, having a first predetermined shape and a first predetermined size, formed in an outer surface of a shank portion of said cutting tool intermediate each end thereof, said groove being formed in a direction transverse to a longitudinal axis of said shank;

(b) at least two grooves, each having a second predetermined shape and a second predetermined size which is larger than said first predetermined size thereby permitting rotation of said cutting tool in said support block, formed in a surface of a bore formed through an axis of said support block for receiving therein said shank portion of said cutting tool, said at least two grooves formed in said surface of said bore being substantially radially opposed with each other about said axis of said support block, said at least one groove formed in said outer surface of said shank portion of said cutting tool being substantially radially opposed to each of said at least two grooves formed in said surface of said bore formed through said axis of said support block when said shank portion is inserted into said bore of said support block; and

(c) at least two pin members engageable with each of said at least one groove formed in said outer surface of said shank portion of said cutting tool and said at least two grooves formed in said surface of said bore formed through said axis of said support block for securing said cutting tool to said support block.

2. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 1, wherein said shank portion further includes a circumferential groove formed in said outer surface thereof closely adjacent an end of said shank portion for receiving a washer like member therein to provide additional retention of said cutting tool in such support block.

3. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 1, wherein said shank portion includes at least two grooves formed in said outer surface thereof, said at least two grooves being formed in a direction transverse to a longitudinal axis of said shank portion.

4. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 3, wherein said at

least two grooves are formed substantially radially opposed with each other.

5. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 4, wherein said predetermined shape of each of said at least two grooves formed substantially radially opposed with each other is oblong.

6. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 1, wherein said at least one groove formed in said shank portion is formed as a circumferential groove thereby enabling rotation of said cutting tool in said support block.

7. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 6, wherein said circumferential groove formed in said outer surface of said shank portion has a substantially oblong shape.

8. (Previously Presented) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 1, wherein each of said at least two grooves formed in said surface of said bore formed through said axis of said support block is formed as part of at least one aperture through said support block

adjacent said bore formed through said axis of said support block.

9. (Previously Presented) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 8, wherein each of said at least two grooves formed in said surface of said bore has a substantially round shape.

10. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 9, wherein said at least one aperture has a substantially round shape.

11. (Previously Presented) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 1, wherein each of said at least two pin members has a substantially round shape.

12. (Previously Presented) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 11, wherein a diameter of at least one aperture formed in said support block has a substantially identical diameter as each of said at least two pin members.

13.-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 1, wherein each of said at least two pin members has a substantially identical diameter as said at least one groove formed in said surface of said bore formed through said axis of said support block.

17 (Cancelled)

18. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 1, wherein said retaining system further includes at least one ledge portion formed on an outer surface of said shank portion.

19. (Original) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 1, wherein said retaining system further includes a pair of ledge portions formed on an outer surface of said shank portion.

20. (Previously Presented) A retaining system for securing a cutting tool to a support block, according to claim 19, wherein at least one of said pair of ledge portions formed on

said outer surface of said shank portion is disposed substantially transverse to a longitudinal axis of said shank portion.